ON ACTION

INR-10

REPM 4	AF 5
EUR 3	FE 2
CU 3	INR S/S 2
P 1	IO
FRD S/S	AID 11
IPC 2	IS/PM 1
COM 2	FRB
LAB 2	TAR
XMB	AIR 15
CIA 15	NAVY 14
USIA 8	NSA 3
NSC 2	INIC 1

DEPARTMENT OF STATE

AIRGRAM

761.00(W)/7-2762

FOR RM USE ONLY

A-133
NO.

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
HANDLING INDICATOR

TO : DEPARTMENT OF STATE

DEPARTMENT OF STATE A/CDC/MR
1962 AUG 3 AM 11

REVIEWED BY [illegible] DATE 7/23/63

RDS☐or XDS☐EXTL. [illegible]
TS AUTH. _____ REASON(S) _____ DISTRIBUTION
ENDORSE EXISTING MARKINGS ☐
DECLASSIFIED☐ RELEASED☐, July 27, 1962
RELEASE DENIED☐
PA or FOI EXEMPTIONS _____

FROM : Amembassy MOSCOW

SUBJECT : JOINT WEEKA NO. 30

REF :

INDEX

EXTERNAL - POLITICAL

1. Disarmament
2. US-Soviet Relations
3. Berlin/Germany
4. Laotian Agreement
5. UAR Anniversary
6. Algeria

INTERNAL - POLITICAL

7. Leadership
8. Ukrainian CP History Re-Visited
9. RSFSR Supreme Soviet Session
10. A Busy Week at the Wall

MILITARY

AIR

Soviet Article Terms US Anti-Missile Missile Test a Failure

ARMY

High Water in Moscow Area

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

FORM DS-223 4-62

FOR DEPT. USE ONLY
☐ In ☐ Out

Drafted by:
EOL:KBJenkins:RTDavies:KSmidhuin:cs 7/27/62

Comments and Classification Approved by:
EOL:BHKlosson

AIR:Col Nielsen:ARMA:Col Murphy

EXTERNAL - POLITICAL

1. Disarmament. The week's foreign policy developments were dominated by the announcement on July 22 that the USSR will resume nuclear tests. A subsequent announcement by the Ministry of Defense specified that an area in the Barents and Kara Seas would be reserved from August 5 to October 20 for Soviet maneuvers which may include the testing of nuclear weapons.

As expected, Soviet propaganda immediately launched a campaign in support of the contention that the USSR had been forced to resume testing because of the present US test series. In contrast to earlier Soviet characterizations of the US tests as criminal acts, the Soviet decision was hailed by bloc spokesmen as a contribution to the maintenance of world peace. Soviet papers were replete with individual interviews of "typical Soviet citizens" who expressed support for the decision.

Pravda noted with some prominence the Guardian (UK) editorial proposing that agreement be reached now to end all further tests immediately after the forthcoming Soviet series is finished.

The defensiveness in the Soviet propaganda follow-up was most notable in a Pravda "Observer" article by Yuri ZHUKOV. Zhukov admitted Western criticism of the Soviet Union for: (1) rushing to resume tests just as the Geneva talks reopened; (2) having broken the test moratorium which resulted in an arms race; (3) blocking by obstinacy, the conclusion of a test-ban agreement. In reply Zhukov argued that the USSR cannot sit idly by in the face of American preventive war plans, the US actually broke the moratorium first with EISENHOWER's December 29, 1959 declaration, and Moscow has been calling for an immediate agreement on banning testing since May 1959.

Meanwhile, the Soviet press has given heavy coverage to Soviet statements at the Geneva disarmament talks. The full text of GROMYKO's speech (in contrast to Secretary RUSK's speech, which was unreported) was published by both Pravda and Izvestiya.

2. US-Soviet Relations. In typical fashion, US-Soviet relations were subjected to a full range of critical and positive influences in the Soviet press. The US-Soviet track meet in Palo Alto, California was prominently reported by all information media. Although the outcome was presented as a Soviet victory in the "match between giants," an impression of friendly competition and warm personal relations between Soviet and American athletes resulted. Also, the departure of Ambassador THOMPSON occasioned a number of reports in the Soviet press of his farewell receptions by KHRUSHCHEV. Finally, the successful conclusion of the Laos Conference was treated in such a way as to reflect hopefully on future US-Soviet relations.

On the other hand, continuing attacks against alleged American arms race tactics, the advance feature material on the Cuban July 26 anniversary, and criticism of General LEMNITZER's NATO appointment served to maintain the predominantly negative image of the US in Soviet propaganda. A particularly sour note

appeared in the form of Soviet reaction to the dramatic success of Telstar. An Izvestiya "Observer" article, in the only full commentary to date on the Telstar, largely ignored the technical achievement and, instead, concentrated on the alleged fight between American companies attempting to take out outer space.

3. Berlin/Germany. In contrast to the increased speculation in the Western press about a separate peace treaty, Soviet information media were almost completely quiescent on the question of Germany this past week. The most significant material was in the treatment of the President's July 24 press conference. Soviet press accounts once again reported accurately and rather extensively the President's comments indicating that the US-Soviet dialogue on Berlin will continue. Soviet papers even repeated the President's statement that US rights in Berlin result from World War II agreements which cannot be annulled by one side.

4. Laotian Agreement. The successful conclusion of the Laotian Conference was somewhat overshadowed by disarmament and nuclear testing developments, but was hailed by Khrushchev in his message to the Conference as evidence that agreement can be achieved by negotiations on problems, no matter how difficult they may be. Subsequent press commentary adhered closely to Khrushchev's message although considerable effort was also directed to placing the blame for the Laotian crisis on the US.

5. UAR Anniversary. The anniversary of the Egyptian revolution was prominently marked in the Soviet press with a number of feature articles. Most of them concentrated on revolutionary achievements of the NASSER regime and the importance of Soviet-UAR cooperation in these achievements. However, a Pravda "Observer" article by MAYEVSKI presented a surprisingly frank comparison of Cairo's and Moscow's brands of socialism. Mayevski, on the basis of an interview with Nasser in Cairo, quoted the UAR President's rejection of dictatorship by the proletariat, the use of suppression against reactionary forces, and Nasser's insistence that "Islam is the religion of socialism." Mayevski refuted these pronouncements by Nasser indirectly by denouncing similar assertions by a Cairo journalist.

Moscow editors SATYUKOV (Pravda) and ADZHUBEI (Izvestiya) traveled to Cairo to take part in the anniversary celebrations.

6. Algeria. The development of an open break between the BEN KHEDDA and BEN BELLA factions in Algeria obviously has posed a dilemma for the Soviets. Having rushed to recognize and extend congratulations to Ben Khedda immediately after the referendum, the Soviets are now apparently reluctant to openly support Ben Bella as long as the dispute remains in question. Until July 25 the Soviet press had not reported the dramatic struggle between the two Algerian leaders. In the past two days, however, short, noncommittal TASS reports of the purported acceptance by Ben Khedda of Ben Bella's national bureau proposal have appeared.

INTERNAL - POLITICAL

7. Leadership. The week brought further evidence of the regime's continuing concern with the credibility abroad of its claim to military parity with the West, with the adequacy of its educational system, and with the growing attraction of religious sectarianism for the people it rules.

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
(Classification)

On July 19-21, accompanied by Defense Minister Marshal MALINOVSKY, Navy Commander-in-Chief Fleet Admiral GORSHKOV, the chief political commissar of the armed forces, General of the Army YEPISHEV; the officer commanding the Northern Fleet, Admiral V. A. KASATONOV, and D. F. USTINOV, the Deputy Chairman of the USSR Council of Ministers responsible for the armaments industry, Khrushchev visited units of the Northern Fleet and awarded high decorations to officers and crew members of the atomic-submarine service "for the successful fulfillment of a special task of the government." The "task" appeared to have been "the firing of rockets from a submerged position" by one or more "atomic rocket submarines" (Pravda, July 22).

Reports of the award ceremony were published on July 22 side-by-side with the Soviet Government's Declaration that "in response to the series of tests of American nuclear weapons," it had been "compelled" to issue "an order on the carrying out of tests of the newest types of Soviet nuclear weapons."

There were rumors in Moscow of past and continuing difficulties with food supply in the provinces. According to one of these, a serious riot had occurred in Novocherkassk, near Rostov-on-Don, on June 1, following the announcement of the 30 percent rise in meat and butter prices (Embassy's A-125, July 27). One version of this rumor had F. R. KOZLOV, who attended a Rostov Party aktiv meeting early in June (Pravda, June 9; Embassy D-1115, June 12), being hit by a bottle during his visit to Rostov Oblast.

Whatever the case may have been, Kozlov reappeared in Moscow on July 25, at the opening of the second day of the RSFSR Supreme Soviet session, following an absence of nearly two months. Khrushchev, who had returned from his northern trip on July 24, VORONOV, KIRILENKO, POLYANSKY, V. V. GRISHIN, P. N. DEMICHEV, L. F. ILYICHEV, B. N. PONOMAREV, and A. N. SHELEPIN, were also in the government loges at the July 25 RSFSR session.

With the return of MIKOYAN to Moscow on July 25 from a six-day "good-will" mission to Indonesia, a clear quorum of the Moscow-based members of the leadership was present in Moscow. BREZHNEV, KOSYGIN, KUUSINEN, and SHVERNIK were presumably on leave; SUSLOV, having led the Soviet contingent at a July 20 Polish Embassy reception commemorating the 18th anniversary of the establishment of the Lublin Committee, was not in evidence later in the week and may have joined them.

Both Khrushchev and Kozlov were busy men during the remainder of the week. The First Secretary devoted nearly six hours on July 25 to Ambassador Thompson's farewell call and to a late-afternoon luncheon he and Mme. KHRUSHCHEVA gave for the Ambassador and Mrs. Thompson. Kozlov turned up at a dinner given that evening by Deputy Chairman of the Council of Ministers IGNATOV for CPR Foreign Minister CHEN Yi and DRV Foreign Minister Ung Van KHIEM, en route home from Geneva. On July 26, Khrushchev received his Mongolian opposite number, Yumzhagir TSEDENBAL, who has been undergoing medical treatment in Moscow, plus the Mali, Moroccan, and Syrian ambassadors. Kozlov, accompanied by CPSU-CC Presidium cand. late-member RASHIDOV and secretary Ponomarev, led the Soviet delegation at a Cuban Embassy reception in honor of the ninth anniversary of July 26.

DECLASSIFIED

8. Ukrainian CP History Re-Visited. While the week's comings and goings combined to convey an atmosphere of mid-summer Moscow normalcy, the breath of covert contr[illegible]ersy was not altogether absent.

On July 25, Pravda published a review of "Outlines of the History of the Communist Party of the Ukraine," nearly a year after the book had been signed to the press and a good nine to ten months after it went on sale on the eve of the XXII Party Congress. The author of the review was the Old Bolshevik, Academician Isaak Izrayilevich MINTS, a veteran Soviet historian who had suffered during the later Stalin era as a "rootless cosmopolitan."

On the one hand, Mints praised "Outlines" for its Khrushchev-cult material (cf. Embassy's D-662, January 26, 1962). On the other, he criticized it, in language moderate in tone but severe in implication, for its continued application to the pre-Stalin Ukrainian Communist leadership of the categories of "left" and "right" deviationism, contending that, whatever mistakes the Ukrainian leaders may ha[illegible]e made, they never faltered in their fundamental loyalty to Lenin's teachings on "proletarian internationalism." Mints demanded the preparation of a second edition of "Outlines" which would correct these mistakes and devote greater attention to the services of N. S. Khrushchev as the organizer of the Ukrainian partisan effort during World War II.

It is not easy to discern the domestic-political significance of this belated criticism of a book which was apparently designed in no small part to aggrandize Khrushchev's activities in the Ukraine. Mints' criticisms provide an intriguing counterpoint, in any case, to the picture of Ukrainian Party history, still heavily Stalinist in content and tone, provided by "Outlines" on the eve of the XXII Party Congress.

9. RSFSR Supreme Soviet Session. In reporting the VI Session of the RSFSR Supreme Soviet (July 24-25), the Soviet press placed major emphasis on its discussion of education. Although shortcomings were admitted in teacher training, school construction, and occupational training, the RSFSR school system was said to have strengthened its "ties with life" to the extent that, in 1961, 60 percent of those entering higher educational establishments (VUZes) had completed two years of productive labor. The RSFSR Minister of Education, Ye. I. AFANASENKO, also announced that, beginning September 1, 1962, eight-year education will be compulsory in the Republic for children under the age of 16, marking the completion of the transition from the former seven-year system.

Relatively little space was given in the press to the revision of Article 227 of the RSFSR Criminal Code. But the attention paid to education failed to obscure the fact that the regime, in causing the revision to be enacted, had taken a major new step in its anti-religious campaign.

New Article 227 retains the penalty of up to five years deprivation of liberty for the organization or leading of groups, "the activity of which, carried on under the pretext of the propagation of religious doctrines and the fulfillment of religious rites, entails the causing of harm to the health of citizens or other infringements upon the person or rights of citizens, or the inducement of citizens

to decline social activity or the fulfillment of civic obligations, as well as the enticement of minors into such a group."

The new Article then adds a paragraph under which rank-and-file members of religious sects may be prosecuted: "Active participation in the activity of a group, such as is defined in the first part of the present article, as well as systematic propaganda, directed towards the accomplishment of the acts therein specified, is punishable by deprivation of liberty for a period of up to three years, or by exile for the same period, or by corrective labor for a period of up to one year."

The new Article ends with a notation suggesting the substitution of social pressure for court action in cases "not presenting a major social danger."

COMMENT: The revision of Section 227 provides a tidier legal basis for the prosecution of religious believers, which has been stepped up markedly since the XXII Party Congress. It will be especially useful in dealing with sects such as the Seventh-Day Adventists, whose members refuse to work on certain days of the week (Embassy's D-1147, June 26), or adherents of any denomination who follow beliefs which set them apart from the majority-behavior patterns of their communities.

10. A Busy Week at the Wall. In a single week, Soviet civilian and military courts have sentenced over 32 persons to be shot.

In Frunze (Embassy's A-129, July 27), Sovetskaya Kirgiziya (July 21 and 24) released, in stages, the name of nine of the persons sentenced to be shot for participating in major economic crimes involving the setting up of unauthorized textile factories and the bribing of officials to secure their complicity. The exact number of persons to be shot is unknown because press listings end with the phrase "and others." At least four of those sentenced to be shot are believed to be Jews. Three of those sentenced to death are former economic officials of the Kirghiz SSR.

In Moscow, Izvestiya (July 25) announced the sentencing to death of K. T. DEGTYAREV, former head of a section in the USSR Ministry of Finance, for taking bribes (Embassy's A-130, July 27). Degtyarev is the highest ranking official thus far known to have been sentenced to death under the new, harsher anti-bribery statute.

In Mogilev, as announced by Sovetskaya Rossiya (July 19), a public show trial found seventeen persons guilty of having collaborated with the Nazi occupation during World War II. All of the accused were sentenced to be shot.

In Krasnodar, a military tribunal sentenced six alleged former Nazi collaborators to be shot. Izvestiya (July 25) stated that this band of "SS men" had been guilty of various ghastly crimes, including complicity in the annihilation of 20,000 Polish Jews.

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
(Classification)

MILITARY

AIR

UNCLASSIFIED

Soviet Article Terms US Anti-Missile Missile Test a Failure. A recent US anti-missile missile test involving the Atlas ICBM and the Nike-Zeus defense missile is termed "a complete failure" in an article appearing in the July 24 issue of Sovietskiy Patriot, a DOSAAF semi-weekly. Headed "In Search of Anti-Rockets," the article states that the Nike-Zeus "is still in an experimental stage." Referring to the test (presumably a reference to the successful intercept of an Atlas by a Nike-Zeus on 19 July), the article says: "Recently the first attempt was made in the US to destroy a ballistic rocket, the Atlas, launched from Point Mugu (California), with the anti-rocket Nike-Zeus. This attempt was a complete failure and it isn't surprising that certain US officials are skeptical of the Nike-Zeus." Decrying the fact that the US "is annually spending hundreds of millions of dollars on Project Defender," the article describes the various types of missile defense being considered by the project, including satellites armed with anti-missile missiles and lazer devices. According to the article, "Defender" has progressed "no further than preparation and experimentation."

The author of the article, a Major N. VASILIEV, reassures his readers that there is no defense against Soviet global rockets and quotes Khrushchev who reportedly said: "I know what anti-missile missiles are, because we have them. One can say that our rocket can hit a fly in the cosmos."

ARMY

High Water in Moscow Area. The July 23 edition of Vechernyaya Moskva describes extraordinarily high water in the Moscow River in and around Moscow. Water is flowing through Karamyshevsky Dam at the spring runoff rate of 500 cubic meters per second, and the stretch of the Moscow River between the South and West Ports has risen two meters above normal so that river traffic is temporarily suspended as vessels cannot clear river bridges. At Zvenigorod and the Mozhaysky Sea the water level has risen five meters.

COMMENT: Observation in the Moscow area shows that most streams and water courses are swollen to or near flood stage and that rains have been abnormally heavy.

For the Chargé d'Affaires ad interim:

Boris H. Klosson

Boris H. Klosson
Counselor for Political Affairs

Distribution by Embassy: Bonn, Seoul, Prague, Warsaw, Belgrade, Budapest, Bucharest, Ankara, Bern, Brussels, Helsinki, Stockholm, London, Kabul, Oslo, Rome, Paris, Sofia, Vienna, Tehran, Tokyo, Copenhagen, Geneva, Istanbul, Munich, Frankfurt, Cairo, Berlin, Hong Kong, USEUCOM, SETAF, USAREUR, CINCNELM (REAR ECHELON), CINCPAC, USCINCEUR, USCINCSOUTH, CINCUSAFE, CINCUSARPAC, USARAL, DET. "R" DA.

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE